

KOINUMA MICHIO (B. 1936)

Koinuma's work is reminiscent of Chinese and Japanese ancient clay forms. He implements the *tatara* method, using flattened plates of clay, to create his characteristic strong shapes. Koinuma incises his motifs directly onto the clay body and adds slip to form designs. He uses either *Shigaraki* clay or a type of kaolin clay called *gairome*, which are fired at a lower temperature than those typically used for kaolin.

- 1936 Born in Tokyo.
- 1969 Built *Ichimoku-gama* kiln in Masho, Tochigi prefecture.
- 1995 Entered in the collection of Tokyo Opera City Cultural Foundation
- 1997 Featured in a NHK program, *Yakimono tanpo* [Ceramic Hunt]
- 2002 Entered in the collection of Tochigi Prefectural Art Museum

Awards:

- 1974 Excellent Prize, *North Kanto-area Art Exhibition*
- 1991 Maronie Cultural Prize, Tochigi Prefecture

Solo exhibitions:

- 1976 Kuroda-tôen, Tokyo (also in '78 and '85),
Takashimaya Department Store Galleries, Yokohama and Ikebukuro, Tokyo
Seibu Department Gallery, Tokyo (also in '78)
- 1979 Gallery Kumo, Tokyo (also in '82 and '85)
- 1984 Ôtemachi Gallery, Tokyo (every year through '91)
- 1989 Fujinoya, Sano
- 1994 Ôtemachi Gallery, Tokyo

Group exhibitions:

- 1981 *Japan-Taiwan Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition*, Taipei National Museum of History, Taipei, Taiwan
- 1982 *Japanese Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition*, Asia Art Festival, Hong Kong Art Center, Hong Kong
- 1985 *1985 Contemporary Art Fair*, Central Gallery, Tokyo
- 1994 *The 110th Anniversary of Shimotsuke Newspaper Exhibition*

Reference:

- Exhibition Catalogue: Koinuma Michio ten (Sano: Fujinoya, 1989)
- Toh: The Best Selections of Contemporary Ceramics in Japan*, vol. 10 (Kyoto: Kyoto shoin, 1992)
- Articles in *Gekkan bijutsu*, July 1986, January 1991, and February 1993 (Tokyo: San Art)
- Articles in *Honoho geijutsu*, vol. 11, 16, 18, 21, and 39 (Tokyo: Abe shuppan)
- The Contemporary Potters and Works in Japan*, vol. 3 East Division (Tokyo: Shogakkan, 1996): p. 128-9.